

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 OIC-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08 COME-00 STR-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01
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EA/ANP - MR. HURWITZ

EA/EP - MR. GEBER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEAN, EAID, SN

SUBJECT:US-ASEAN DIALOGUE: SINGAPORE INQUIRIES (INCLUDING
ANZUS)

1. GOS AMB. COOMARASWAMY CALLED JUNE 20 ON DAS OAKLEY
AND EA OFFICERS TO INQUIRE ABOUT SEVERAL ASPECTS OF UP-
COMING US-ASEAN DIALOGUE. SPECIFIC ITEMS AND OUR COMMENTS
WERE AS FOLLOWS:

A) NEW YORK/LOS ANGELES EXPOSURE: AMB ASKED ABOUT PROPOSED
U.S. PLANS. WE SAID WE UNDERSTOOD SOME ASEAN MINS
PREFERRED REMAIN WASHINGTON FOR POST-MORTEM AND WERE NOT
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PARTICULARLY INTERESTED ABOUT NEW YORK/LOS ANGELES PORTION
OF VISIT. WE THEREFORE MADE NO PLANS FOR THESE CITIES.
WE NOTED THAT VARIETY OF U.S. BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS
(ASEAN-US TRADE COUNCIL, FAR EAST-AMERICA COUNCIL, NATIONAL
FOREIGN TRADE COUNCIL, ETC.) HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN
MEETING WITH ASEAN DELS. IT WOULD ALSO BE POSSIBLE FOR
POLICY-ORIENTED ORGANIZATIONS, SUCH AS THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS

COUNCIL TO BE INVOLVED. BOTH TYPES OF SESSIONS WOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR ASEAN AND ITS COUNTRIES TO BECOME BETTER KNOWN IN U.S. WE HAD RAISED QUESTION WITH GOP COORDINATOR WHETHER ASEAN DELS SINGLY OR COLLECTIVELY WISHED ENGAGE IN A NEW YORK AND/OR LOS ANGELES VISIT IN

WHICH CASE WE NEEDED TO KNOW SOON IF APPROPRIATE ARRANGEMENTS WERE TO BE MADE.

B) CONCRETE RESULTS: HOW WAS THIS COMING ALONG? WE REPLIED ALONG LINES THAT WE HAD VARIETY OF ITEMS IN MIND WHICH TAKEN TOGETHER WOULD, WE BELIEVE, BE JUDGED CONCRETE ALTHOUGH EACH ITEM WOULD UNDERSTANDABLY NOT APPEAR OF SIMILAR IMPORTANCE TO EACH DEL. WE ALSO OUTLINED CURRENT STATUS MTN NEGOTIATIONS AND PROSPECT THAT ASEAN CONTRIBUTIONS WERE, IN GENERAL, CURRENTLY SO DEFICIENT AS TO CALL INTO QUESTION MAINTENANCE MUCH LESS IMPROVEMENT OF U.S. OFFERS. ASEAN STATES SHOULD GIVE REAL ATTENTION TO THIS MATTER. WE ALSO NOTED IRONY THAT DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION IS NOW RELEGATED BY ASEAN TO VERY LOW PRIORITY, WHEREAS AT LAST YEAR'S MEETING IT HAD BEEN PLACED ON AGENDA ONLY AT ASEAN INSISTENCE. WE HOPED FORTHCOMING EXPERTS MEETING WOULD PRODUCE ITEMS OF INTEREST ALTHOUGH PROCESS OF FRUITION WOULD BE SLOW.

C)"POLITICAL" TALKS: GOS AMB ASKED ABOUT OPPORTUNITY FOR
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"POLITICAL" DISCUSSIONS. WE NOTED ASEAN SENSITIVITIES (WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS "OVERCOME") AND THAT POLITICAL ITEMS WOULD NOT BE INCLUDED ON AGENDA. HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE FEASIBLE TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES IF ASEAN STATES (MINISTERS) WISHED TO DO SO. WHILE SUCH TALKS COULD BE USEFUL AND WE WOULD NOT PROPOSE THEM, WE WOULD UNDERSTAND ANY INTEREST AND TAKE IT INTO ACCOUNT EITHER AT THE BEGINNING OR THE END OF THE MEETING.

C) SCHEDULE: WE NOTED THAT EVENTS (PARTICULARLY CONGRESSIONAL SESSIONS) WILL PROBABLY MEAN SCHEDULING SOME ITEMS FOR AFTERNOON OF WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2 WHEN WE ASSUME MOST DELS WOULD HAVE ARRIVED.

2. ANZUS: AMB ALSO INQUIRED ABOUT RECENT ANZUS TALKS. DAS OAKLEY CHARACTERIZED DISCUSSIONS AS GLOBAL AND THAT AUSTRALIANS AND NEW ZEALANDERS HAD BEEN REASSURED OF OUR INTEREST IN ANZUS AND PACIFIC. SECRETARY HAD ALSO GIVEN FRANK AND INFORMATIVE REVIEW OF AFRICA, MIDDLE EAST AND ASIA (INCLUDING CHINA). UNDER SECRETARY COOPER HAD REVIEWED N-S AND OTHER ECONOMIC ISSUES. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY ON INDIAN OCEAN, OAKLEY NOTED WE WOULD UNDERTAKE

ANZUS NAVAL EXERCISE IN SE QUADRANT (OFF AUSTRALIA'S
WEST COAST) AS PART OF EFFORT PROMOTE SPECIFIC AND VISIBLE
DEMONSTRATIONS OF OUR INDIAN OCEAN AND ANZUS INTERESTS.
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